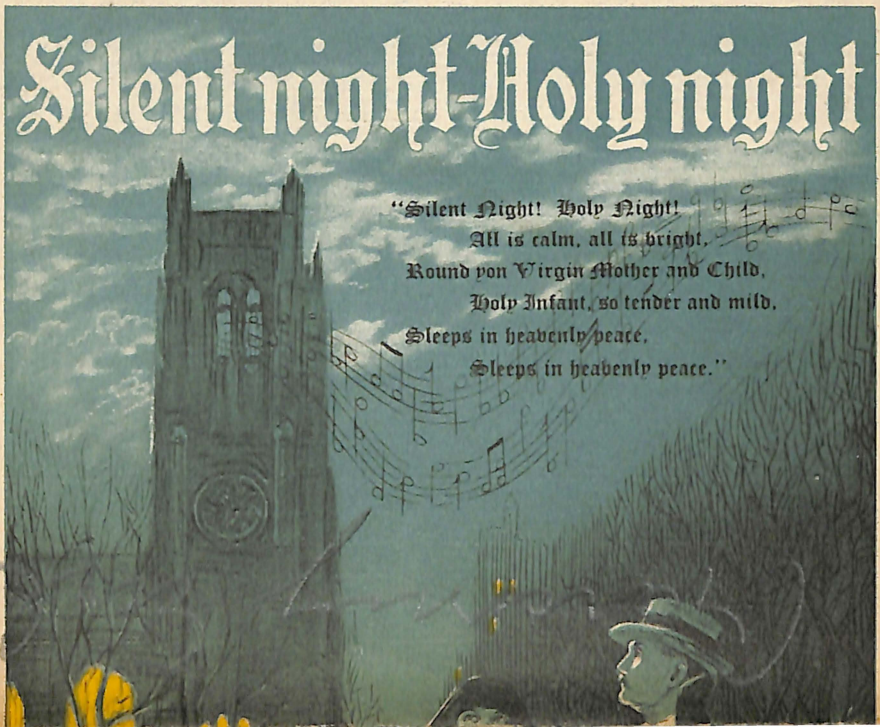
Silent night-Holy night


"Silent Night! Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleeps in heavenly peace,
Sleeps in heavenly peace."

Ro. 12:21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

Mother suggesting to her children something else to do than the thing the children were doing .

Ruling by donts does not make children good. Paul suggests a better way. Text.

In time of war the gretest generals are they who overcome their enemies with strategy, when their enemies cannot be taken in any other way. Evil has such a grip on us that we cannot overcome it by force, we have to use the divine strategy suggested by the Apostle Paul- overcome evil with good.

I. First let us apply this principle to our thinking. Robinson's article on"Four Kinds of Thinking" mentions Reverie first of all- that stream of thot which ever flows thru our minds suggesting thot after thot without our having to think at all, the thots which come to us when we are not giving any direction to our thots at all. That stream of thot in every one of us is a muddy stream, containing lots of dirt and debris. No mind is entirely free from evil thots. Base and vile thongs are constantly coming to mind. Even Christ had to deal with this stream of thot and its evil suggestions. His temptations are an example.

And how we often sieze upon such thots and bid them welcome! When Mr. Evil Thot comes alongand you say to him,"Dont be in a hurry; come right in and stay awhile, I am glad to see you.", then you are in a sinful attitude of mind. You are harboring evil thots for which you are responsible.

But how are we to help ourselves? How can we overcome thes evil pictures and suggestions that come to us without our asking? The more you say to such thots,"Begone and dont bother me!" the more persistant they will become.

The only way to overcome them is to fill the mind with thots that are good and beautiful and true.

Glass, how to get out the air? fill the glass with water. Put in the good and the evil will be kept out.

II. The samp principle should be applied to our reading. Much of our printed matter is nothing but trash. Worse than trash because so much of it destroys our high ideals and pure conceptions of life. There is enough good reading for everybody with any kind of a decent taste. You dont have to read debasing trash, full of evil Read the good things and the evil will be kept out.

III. This principle can also be applied to our pleasure-seeking.

Hardly any use in telling people not to do this or that, not to indulge in this or that pleasure. So far as our childrnn are conceened we ought to see to it that they have so much of wholesome pleasure, of fun and play that is good, that they will not care f r any other kind. Many a wise mother is tiding her children over the danger periods of life by just this method of leading her children into pleasures and play-life that protect them from the evil pleasures of the world.

IV. This same principle may be applied to our daily occupations and to every department of life.

A wise picture dealer induced a student at a universi ty to hang in his room a beattiful picture of the Christ. And strange to say, theother pictures of balet girls and other empty subjects looked somuch out of place that the student took them down and began hanging picutres more in keeping with the Christ picture.

Enthrone Christ in your soul, and all the pictures of thot and desire and conduct that defi e and debase will have to come dowm, and in their place you will hang the lives of good men and true, the memories of golden deeds, the noble passages of poetic thot, scenes of mountain and sunset and ocean. All the Xn virtues will rush to your aid and help you keep out the undesirable evil by filling your mind and heart and soul with thi things of God and life that are worth while.